IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 20, with the following paragraph:

According to the present invention, contact ~~do~~ does not occur between the circumferential non-contact areas and balls and the lubricant can be retained in those gaps defined between them and, accordingly, the lubricant so retained can be supplied to the slide contact areas each between the ball bearing surfaces of the respective pocket and the corresponding ball during operation of the bearing. Because of this, lubrication at the slide contact areas can be maintained in a favorable condition. Also, since all of the edges of the ball bearing surfaces on both sides of each of the pockets, which may contact the ball, are chamfered, the lubricant, for example, a grease sticking to the surface of the ball is not easily scraped off by the edges of the ball bearing surfaces of each pocket and, therefore, the lubricant can easily be introduced into portions of the respective pocket where lubrication is required. As a result, the slide contact area between each pocket and the corresponding ball can be kept in a satisfactorily lubricated condition, and vibrations and noises which would be generated from the slide contact areas can advantageously be suppressed.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 18, with the following paragraph:

Portions of the inner surface of the respective pocket 3 which lie in a direction intersecting the direction of rotation of the ball retainer, that is, in the circumferential direction of the ball retainer are defined as intersecting oil reservoir grooves (or more generally, intersecting lubricant reservoir grooves) 8 each being in the form of a generally elongated recess of a curved surface and extending in a direction radially of the retainer body 1 shown by the arrow A. Each of the intersecting oil reservoir grooves 8 is so defined in each of the pockets 3 as to straddle, for example, from one side to the other of the axial position of the ball retainer which generally coincides with the pitch circle PC (Fig. 5) in which the balls 2 are arranged in a circumferential row. Fig. 4 illustrates a fragmentary sectional view of a portion of the ball retainer cut along the position of the ball retainer where one of the intersecting oil reservoir groove 8 is defined. Each of the intersecting oil reservoir groove 8 is in the form of a curved concave surface, or a

cylindrical or square-sectioned concave surface concentric with the rolling contact surface of the ball 2 rollingly retained in the pocket 3 and having a radius of curvature slightly greater than the curvature of the corresponding ball bearing surface 5,. So far shown, each of the intersecting oil reservoir grooves 8 has its bottom surface representing a cylindrical surface and represents such a trapezoidal shape that, when the ball retainer is viewed from the radial direction, the respective intersecting oil reservoir groove 8 opens, being flared from its bottom surface as clearly shown in Fig. 5.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 9, with the following paragraph:

The pocket 3 has, on one side with respect to the axial direction of the ball retainer as shown by the arrow B, an axial opening 3a delimited between the paired projections 4 and 4 as hereinbefore described. A bottom of the pocket 3 opposite to the axial opening 3a is formed with a bottom oil reservoir groove (or more generally, bottom lubricant reservoir groove) 9 of a generally concaved shape. This groove 9 extends in the radial direction of the ball retainer as shown by the arrow A. While the bottom oil reservoir groove 9 has a depth which allows the ball 2 to contact the bottom of the oil reservoir groove 9 when the ball 2 assumes the lowermost position within the pocket 3, the bottom oil reservoir groove 9 may be formed so deep as to avoid a contact between the ball 2 and the bottom of the oil reservoir groove 9. Provided that the bottom oil reservoir groove 9 satisfies this condition as to the depth thereof, the bottom oil reservoir groove 9 may have a cylindrical sectional shape, a sectional shape similar to the square-sectioned tube or a spherically concaved shape that is concentric with the rolling contact surface of the ball 2 and has a radius of curvature slightly greater than that of the non-contact surface area 6. In the illustrated embodiment, the bottom oil reservoir groove 9 has a sectional shape similar to that of the square-sectioned tube.